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## 2012 Founder's Day Bell Ringing Ceremony

Illinois State University

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# FOUNDERS



2012 DAY

Old Main Bell

Dedicated February 13, 1857



ILLINOIS STATE  
UNIVERSITY  
*Illinois' first public university*

BELL RINGING CEREMONY | 10 A.M., FEBRUARY 16, 2012

# Founders Day Bell Ringing Ceremony

**10 A.M., THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2012**

*Prairie Room, Bone Student Center*

One of the many traditions at Illinois State University is to ring the Old Main Bell located on the Quad on Founders Day in observance of the founding of Illinois State University. A snowstorm in 2007 moved the bell ceremony indoors where a “stand-in” bell was rung, donated from our friends at the McLean County Historical Society. That day also opened the 150th birthday celebration of Illinois State, thus the new title of Sesquicentennial Bell was given.

Private donors to the University later funded a special bell to be added to the Founders Day celebration activities. The Replica Old Main Bell was distinctively created and unveiled to be rung for the first time on Founders Day in 2010.

Today we will toll the Replica Old Main Bell 155 times to celebrate Illinois State University’s 155th birthday.

## Replica Old Main Bell



The Replica Old Main Bell was made possible by Carson and Iris Varner, who have been teaching at Illinois State since 1975. The Varners developed the international business major into an interdisciplinary program that has made Illinois State the center of international business education in Illinois. They decided to fund the creation of the Replica Old Main Bell after attending the Bell Ringing Ceremony during Founders Day 2009. Their goal was to create something unique for the University that would build on Illinois State’s rich history and tradition. A bronze bell that would ring with a rich sound was soon envisioned.

The Varners’ research led them to contact Illinois State Professor Randy Reid ’87, M.S. ’91, M.F.A. ’96 from the College of Fine Arts. Reid, an instructor and bronze casting specialist in the School of Art, created the Replica Old Main Bell. He has also created the fountain for the Genevieve Green Gardens at Ewing Manor, a plaque on the Lincoln Gates, and the fighting Redbird head displayed in the Illinois State University Alumni Center.

## **WELCOME**

Erin Minné, vice president of University Advancement

## **VIDEO**

*Illinois State Year in Review*

## **REMARKS**

Al Bowman, president of Illinois State University

## **RINGING OF THE REPLICA OLD MAIN BELL**

Members of the University Community

## **CLOSING**

Erin Minné

*Reception to follow*

## **RINGING OF THE OLD MAIN BELL**

Illinois State University Quad

*(Brief, informal service)*

## **BELL RINGERS**

Al Bowman .....	President
Linda Bowman .....	First Lady
Mike McCuskey .....	Board of Trustees
Jay D. Bergman .....	Board of Trustees
Anne Davis .....	Board of Trustees
Betty Kinser .....	Board of Trustees
Lori Adams .....	School of Theatre
Jennifer Anderson .....	Office of Admissions
Luann Anderson .....	Alumna
Eric Ballard .....	Bone Student Center/Braden Auditorium
Andrea Ballinger .....	Enterprise Systems Support
Seann Berrocales .....	University Housing Services
Gina Bianchi .....	Alumni Relations
Victoria Brockhouse .....	Student Health Services
Josh Brown .....	Technology
Kallie Bundy .....	Student, Alumni Relations
George Byrns .....	Health Sciences
Mary Campbell .....	School of Social Work
Devin Carlson .....	Enterprise Systems Support
Philip Carter .....	Student, School of Music
Janet Claus .....	University College
Kameron Cox .....	Military Science
Judy Curtis .....	Office of the University Registrar
Cynthia Edmonds-Cady .....	School of Social Work
R. David Edmunds .....	Alumnus
Connie Fletcher .....	Printing Services
Linda Foster .....	Campus Services/Grounds
Deborah Fox .....	College of Arts and Sciences
Kenna Fread .....	Student Health Services
Amy Fritson-Coffman .....	Thomas Metcalf School
Hae Jin Gam .....	Family and Consumer Sciences
Sharon Garce .....	Office of Admissions

*continued on back*



## *Bell ringers continued*

Elizabeth Gerrard .....	Technology
Vance Godbold .....	Student, Criminal Justice Sciences
Jennifer Groezinger .....	Alumna
Courtney Grose .....	English Language Institute
Kris Harding .....	Office of Admissions
Sheila Hufeld .....	Milner Library
Alyssa Hunckler .....	Student, Communication Sciences and Disorders
Brianna Jacobs .....	Student, Communication Sciences and Disorders
Dave Jaeger .....	University Housing Services
Emily James .....	Development
Trish James .....	Office of Admissions
Laura Jones .....	Comptroller's Office
Richard Kane .....	Family and Consumer Sciences
Marian E. Kneer .....	Alumna
Colette Kuk .....	Student, Alumni Relations
Lydia Kyei-Blankson .....	Educational Administration and Foundations
Gail Lamb .....	Development
Steve Lancaster .....	Facilities Management
Cynthia Langrall .....	Mathematics
Robert E. Lee .....	College of Education
Craig McLauchlan .....	Chemistry
Ashley Mericle .....	Chemistry
Deb Meyer .....	Facilities Management
Catherine Miller .....	Mennonite College of Nursing
Maria Moore .....	School of Communication
Constance G. Mueller .....	Alumna
Brent Paterson .....	Division of Student Affairs
Susan Payne .....	Intercultural Programs
Catherine Poffenbarger .....	University Housing Services
Arturo Ramirez .....	Institutional Web Support Services
O. Ed Reitz .....	Mennonite College of Nursing
Shalisa Reitz .....	Student, Integrated Marketing Communications
Kim Robinson .....	Donor and Information Services
Meagan Semmelroth .....	Student, Criminal Justice Sciences
Roberta Shoemaker .....	Physics
Greg Simpson .....	College of Arts and Sciences
Alyssa Sivek .....	Student, Communication Sciences and Disorders
James Skibo .....	Sociology and Anthropology
Diane Skidmore .....	College of Business
Lois Soeldner .....	Office of Admissions
Linda Spencer .....	History
Matthew Spialek .....	School of Communication
Jan Jolynn Staley .....	Marketing
Penny Stephens .....	Redbird Arena
Liana Suhadolnik .....	School of Kinesiology and Recreation
Lisa Szczepura .....	Chemistry
Lynn Tatman .....	Development
Denise Thomas .....	School of Communication
Georgia Tsouvala .....	History
Tracy Wehrle .....	Criminal Justice Sciences
David T. Wiant .....	Alumnus
Janessa Williams .....	Alumni Board
Jamie Wood .....	University Housing Services
Hurdylyn Woods .....	University Housing Services
Linda Young .....	Student Health Services
Lois Young .....	Alumna

# **Founders Day 2012**

## **Founders Day Bell Ringing Ceremony**

### **Nomination Form**

The Old Main Bell, located on the Illinois State University Quad, is one of the oldest pieces of University history that can be found on the campus. The bell was removed from Old Main, the first building built on the campus of what was then called Illinois State Normal University. Old Main was demolished in 1958; however, the bell has long remained a symbol of daily life to not only the campus, but also the surrounding community. Originally, it announced the time. In later years, the bell was rung for special occasions.

Today, ringing the bell on Founders Day provides the campus an opportunity to remember its rich heritage as the oldest public university in the state of Illinois. The still-rich tone that resonates from the bell is a tribute to the thousands of alumni, faculty and staff who have made Illinois State University a leader in higher education and a hope for those who will follow in their footsteps, doing their part to continue to advance this grandest of enterprises.

Individuals are being sought to ring the bell with President Al Bowman as a part of the 155th Founders Day celebration. The bell ringing ceremony will be held on Thursday, February 16 at 10 a.m. in the Prairie Room at Bone Student Center. The individuals selected will also be recognized at the 2 p.m. Convocation that day. Those selected and who are able to participate will receive a commemorative gift.

Nominations are due Friday, January 27, 2012. Individuals may self-nominate or may nominate others from campus constituent groups: Students, faculty, A/P, Civil Service and alumni. Nominations can be made by registering online on the Founders Day website at <http://illinoisstate.edu/foundersday/>. Click on the "Nominate a Bell Ringer" link to access the online nomination form. The Founders Day Committee will select participants from the nominations received. Please note individuals who have previously participated in this ceremony are not eligible.

***Nomination deadline is Friday, January 27, 2012.***

***We look forward to seeing you at the ceremony on  
Thursday, February 16 at 10 a.m. in the Prairie Room,  
Bone Student Center.***